

Serial No. 10/698,382
Amendment dated March 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2005

Docket No. IK-0068

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Previously Presented) An apparatus for protecting a door gasket of a refrigerator, comprising:

a drawer body including a storage space configured to be put into and taken out of a main body of a refrigerator;

a door coupled to one side of the drawer body and configured to pivot about an axis of rotation which is positioned proximate one end portion of the door, wherein an inner peripheral surface of the door is configured to align with a front face of the main body of the refrigerator when the drawer body is positioned in the main body of the refrigerator;

a gasket disposed between the axis of rotation and an edge portion of the one end portion of the door, wherein the gasket is configured to be positioned between the inner peripheral surface of the door and the front face of the main body of the refrigerator when the drawer body is positioned in the main body of the refrigerator and the door is in a closed position; and

Amendment dated March 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2005

a cushioning member positioned between the gasket and the edge portion of the one end portion of the door, wherein the cushioning member is configured to prevent over compression of the gasket when the door pivots about the axis of the rotation.

2. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cushioning member comprises at least one roller.
3. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cushioning member is configured to be installed on the door.
4. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cushioning member is configured to be installed on the main body of the refrigerator.
5. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the gasket is installed on the door.
6. (Previously Presented) The apparatus as claimed in claim 1, wherein the cushioning member comprises a plurality of rollers.

Amendment dated March 13, 2006
Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2005

7. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 1, wherein the axis of rotation is substantially coincident with a position of a hinge pin which couples a lower end of the door to a lower portion of the drawer body.

8. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 7, wherein an upper end of the door is configured to pivot about the hinge pin such that the upper end of the door tilts outward and downward as the door is opened.

9. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 2, wherein the at least one roller is configured to provide rolling contact between the door and the front face of the main body as the door pivots about the axis of rotation.

10. (Previously Presented) The apparatus of claim 9, wherein the rolling contact provided by the at least one roller prevents compression of the gasket between the door and the main body as the door pivots about the axis of rotation.

11. (Currently Amended) A device configured to protect a door gasket, comprising:
a door coupled to an apparatus and configured to pivot about an axis of rotation;
a hinge pin that couples the door and the apparatus so that the door can pivot about an

Amendment dated March 13, 2006

Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2005

axis of rotation defined by the hinge pin;

a gasket provided between a surface portion of the door facing an interior of the apparatus, and between the hinge pin and an outer edge of the door; and

a cushioning member comprising at least one roller positioned between the gasket and the outer edge of the door, wherein the cushioning member is configured to preclude over compression of the gasket as the door pivots.

12. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the gasket is configured to form a seal between the surface portion of the door facing the interior portion of the apparatus and a front face of the apparatus when the door is in a closed position.

13. (Currently Amended) The device of claim 11, wherein the cushioning member comprises at least one roller is configured provide rolling contact between the door and the front face portion of the apparatus as the door pivots about the hinge pin.

14. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 13, wherein the rolling contact provided by the at least one roller prevents compression of the gasket between the door and the apparatus as the door pivots about the hinge pin.

Serial No. 10/698,382

Docket No. IK-0068

Amendment dated March 13, 2006

Reply to Office Action of December 12, 2005

15. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the cushioning member comprises a plurality of rollers installed on the door.

16. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the cushioning member comprises at least one roller installed on the apparatus.

17. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 11, wherein the apparatus comprises a refrigerator.

18. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 17, wherein the apparatus comprises a drawer type refrigerator, and wherein the door is coupled to a drawer body configured to slide into and out of a receiving space of the drawer type refrigerator.

19. (Previously Presented) The device of claim 18, wherein the door is configured to rotate about a lower end portion thereof such that an upper portion of the door pivots outward and downward as the door is opened.

20. (Previously Presented) A drawer type refrigerator comprising the device of claim 11.